

Section II (Remarks)

Amendment of the Claims

Claims 1, 7, 13, 14, 18 and 21 have been amended herein, to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that “all disilane substituents are not simultaneously monoalkylamino,” thereby delimiting the disilane compound “fully substituted with alkylamino and/or dialkylamino functional groups.”

Claim 7 has been amended to further specify the silicon compound “wherein R_1 - R_{12} may be the same as or different from one another and each is independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 - C_3 alkyl, and C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl,” with the proviso that “the substituents on each silane are not all simultaneously monoalkylamino or monocycloalkylamino.”

Claim 13 has been amended to delete $(\text{HNBu}^t)_2(\text{HNMe})\text{Si}-\text{Si}(\text{HNMe})(\text{HNBu}^t)_2$ from the Markush group listing of silicon compounds.

Claim 14, earlier withdrawn, has been amended for consistency with claim 13, by deleting the synthesis reaction for the $(\text{HNBu}^t)_2(\text{HNMe})\text{Si}-\text{Si}(\text{HNMe})(\text{HNBu}^t)_2$ compound deleted from claim 13.

Claim 18 has been amended to delimit the claimed disilane derivatives that are fully substituted with alkylamino and/or dialkylamino functional groups, by the introduced proviso that “all disilane substituents are not simultaneously monoalkylamino.”

Claim 21 has been amended consistently with respect to claim 7.

No new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132(a) has been introduced by the foregoing amendments.

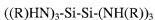
Concurrent Submission of Request for Continued Examination

In view of the finality of the April 18, 2008 Office Action, a Request for Continued Examination is being submitted herewith at the time of EFS filing of this response (37 CFR 1.114). The RCE fee specified in 37 CFR 1.17(e) is being paid by on-line credit card payment at the time of EFS submission of this response.

Rejection of Claims in the April 18, 2008 Office Action, and Traversal Thereof

In the April 18, 2008 Office Action, claims 1-13 and 18-23 were allowed, claims 14-17 and 24-31 being withdrawn.

In this response, claims 1, 7, 13, 14, 18 and 21 have been amended to delineate the subject matter of applicants' claimed invention over the hexakis(monohydrocarbylamino)disilanes of Dussarat et al. US Patent 7,019,159. Dussarat et al. discloses silane compounds of the formula



wherein each R is independently a C₁ to C₄ hydrocarbyl.

The applicants' independent claims have been amended herein to recite disilanes wherein "all disilane substituents are not simultaneously monoalkylamino" (claims 1 and 18) or wherein "the substituents on each silane are not all simultaneously monoalkylamino or monocycloalkylamino" (claims 7 and 21), with claims 13 and 14 being correspondingly amended to delete (HNBu¹)₂(HNMe)Si-Si(HNMe)(HNBu¹)₂ and its synthesis reaction, respectively.

Inasmuch as the remaining claims 2-6, 8-12, 15-17, 19-20 and 22-31 either depend from, directly or indirectly, or otherwise incorporate all subject matter of such amended independent claims, all claims 1-31 are fully patentably distinguished over the art, and in form and condition for allowance.

Allowance of all claims 1-31 is therefore requested, subsequent to rejoinder (MPEP 821.04) of the withdrawn claims 14-17 and 24-31 with elected claims 1-13 and 18-23.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-31 are now in form for allowance and issue, having been amended to patentably delineate over the art.

Issuance of a Notice of Allowance therefore is requested, subsequent to entry of this response and the accompanying Request for Continue Examination.

If any issues remain outstanding, incident to the formal allowance of this application, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (919) 419-9350 to discuss same, in order that the application may be passed to issue at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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